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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Patent Appl. No. : 10/690,147  
Filed : October 21, 2003  
Applicant(s) : Stephen H. Canonico  
Assignee : Appalachian Cast Products, Inc.  
For : Hand-Operated Jointed Control Lever  
TC/A.U. : 3682  
Examiner : Chong Kim

Confirmation No. 3912

Att'y Docket No. : A3,041

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**STATUS INQUIRY**

The undersigned attorney of record respectfully inquires as to the status of the above-identified patent application.

A patent application was filed in the Patent and Trademark Office on October 21, 2003, and a filing receipt was received in February 2004. No Office Action has been received, and it is now over 28 months since the filing of this application.

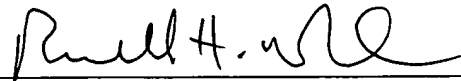
A previous status inquiry was submitted by Certificate of Mailing on May 23, 2005, but no response (other than the return-receipt postcard stamped by the U.S.P.T.O. Mail Room) was ever received. On August 25, 2005, the undersigned attorney left a voice mail message for Examining Group 3723, and subsequently learned that this application had been assigned to Examiner Chong Kim in Examining Group 3682. On August 26, 2005, the undersigned attorney received a cordial telephone call from Examiner Chong Kim, who indicated that a first Office Action could be expected in about six months from then because of the workload in his group. The expected six months have passed, and no first Office Action has been received.

The undersigned attorney respectfully again inquires as to when this application will be examined, and submits this status inquiry as a precaution in case an Office Action has become lost in the mail.

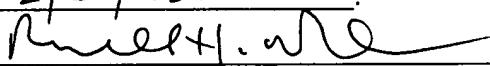
Respectfully submitted,

APPALACHIAN CAST PRODUCTS, INC.,  
Assignee

Date: 2/28/2006

By: 

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on

2/28/2006  


Russell H. Walker Reg. No. 35,401

Date: 2/28/2006

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